GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services - Fisheries Department - Allegations against Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer (U/s), Bhimavaram while working in the Office of the Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru on deputation has failed to maintain cash book, cheque books & fixed Deposits properly and misappropriated an amount of Rs.2,80,25,000/- (Two Crores Eighty Lakhs and Twenty Five Thousands Only) – Common disciplinary proceedings were initiated under Rule 24 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991- Initiation of Disciplinary proceedings under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 – Article of charges - Issued.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRY DEV. & FISHERIES (DY. & VIG.)DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.106 **Dated:12.04.2024.**
Read:

G.O Rt No.105, AHDD&F(Dy.&Vig.)Dept., Dt.12.04.2024.

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In continuation to the orders issued in the reference read above, it is proposed to hold an enquiry against Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer (U/s), Bhimavaram while working in the Office of the Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru on deputation has failed to maintain cash book, cheque books & fixed Deposits properly and misappropriated an amount of Rs.2,80,25,000/- (Two Crores Eighty Lakhs and Twenty Five Thousands Only) in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CCA) Rules, 1991.

2. The statement of articles of charges and statement of imputations of misconduct and mis-behaviour in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed Annexures I&II. A list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom, the articles of charges proposed to be sustained are also enclosed in Annexures III & IV.

3. Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer (U/s), Bhimavaram is directed to submit her written statement of defence within 15 days from the date of receipt of this order.

4. Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer (U/s), Bhimavaram is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those Articles of Charges which are not admitted. she should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each Article of charge.

5. Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer (U/s), Bhimavaram is further informed that if she does not submit her written statement of defence on or before the date specified in para 3 above, further action will be processed based on the material available.

6. Attention of Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer (U/s), Bhimavaram is invited to Rule-24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government Servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interest in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government. If any representation is received on her behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt within these proceedings, it will be presumed that above said Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer (U/s), Bhimavaram is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at her instance and action will be taken against her for violation of Rule-24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(P.T.O)

7. The receipt of the G.O shall be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

To
Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer (U/s), Bhimavaram, through the Commissioner of Fisheries Officer, AP, Vijayawada.
Copy to:
The Commissioner of Fisheries, AP., Vijayawada(with a request to serve the order & obtain the dated acknowledgement and furnish the same).
Sc/Sf.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

(Annexure to G.O Rt No.106, AHDD&F(Dy.&Vig.)Dept., Dt.12.04.2024.)

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SMT. K.JYOTSNA, FISHEREIS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER BHIMAVARAM WORKED IN THE O/O JOINT DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES, ELURU ON O.D.

Article of Charge :

Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer, Bhimavaram (presently under suspension) while working in the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru on deputation has failed to maintain cash book, cheque books & fixed Deposits properly and misappropriated an amount of Rs.2,80,25,000/- (Two Crores Eighty Lakhs and Twenty Five Thousand Only). She has been charged under Sections 409, 420, 468, 471 and 120 (B) IPC and remanded to judicial custody under Crime No.722/2021 in connection with the misappropriation of Government funds.

Thus, Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer, Bhimavaram (presently under suspension) worked in the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru on deputation by her above mentioned acts, exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty, conduct unbecoming of Government Servant in violation to the provisions under rule 3 (1) and (2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATIONS IN SUPPORT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SMT. K.JYOTSNA, FISHEREIS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER BHIMAVARAM WORKED IN THE O/O JOINT DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES, ELURU ON O.D

Vide letter No.794/A2/2021 dt:02.07.2021, the Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru has submitted report regarding misappropriation of funds in the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru.

The Joint Director of Fishereis, Eluru furnished the details of bank accounts maintained with the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru that

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	Account No.	IFSC Code	Nature of Account
1	Andhra Bank, CRR College Branch, Eluru	107110011013884	ANDB0001071	Official
2	HDFC Bank, Eluru	50100242612995	HDFC0001641	Official
3	State Bank of India (Hyderabad) RR Peta, Eluru	62341251762	SBIN0009771	Official
4	State bank of India, Main Branch, Eluru	30201187044	SBIN0000836	Official
5	Andhra Bank, RR Peta, Eluru	046810011331544	ANDB0000468	Official
6	Indian Overseas Bank, Old Bus stand, Eluru	12201000015647	ICBA0000122	Official
7	HDFC Bank Eluru	50100336668073	HDFC0001641	Unofficial

- Upon verifying each and every bank's statement it is found that an amount of Rs.4,12,87,500/- (Rupees four crores twelve lakhs eighty seven thousand five hundred) has been misappropriated as per the details mentioned in the Statement-I and the status of FDRs furnished at Statement – II.

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- By tracking all the records and cheque books it is found that a total of 14 cheque leave were found missing

Sl No.	Name of the Bank	No. of cheque leaves missed	Remarks
1	Andhra Bank	11	7 cheques were encashed and the remaining 4 were not presented to bank for clearance
2	HDFC Bank	3	Not presented to bank for clearance

The bank account at Sl.No. ie., HDFC Bank has been opened by registering and personal mobile number 9701644555 with the funds of two matured FDRs of Laxmi Vilas Bank and adjusted to the Andhra Bank account vide FDR/2019 dt:2.1.2020. The two FDFs total amount of Rs.1,83,65,572/- has been withdrawn vide cheque No.000639 dt:7.1.2020. The above amount of Rs.1,83,65,572/- after depositing in HDFC Bank has been converted into Four FDRs and subsequently withdrawn including interest totalling to Rs.1,86,98,000/- without the knowledge of the Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru Office.

• With regard to misappropriation of Rs.1,00,37,500/- ie., HDFC Bank at Sl.No.2 above, all the withdrawal transactions were made through letters with suspected forged signatures without using cheque leaves, which is not aware to the Joint Directors of Fisheries worked and office.

A cheque bearing No.000716 dt: .08.2020 for Rs.61,62,000/- has been issued with suspected forged signature of Joint Director of Fisheries for payment to M/s SRR Aqua suppliers, duly enclosing a letter vide Rc.No.1270/A5/2015 dt: .08.2020 addressing the branch manager to transfer the funds through NEFT/RTGS. The same amount has been debited and credited to the Andhra Bank account reasons unknown.

As per memo No.290/A4/2020 dt:07.05.2020 of Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru has issued orders that in view of retirement of Sri B.Deenadayal, Superintendent O/o Assistant Director of Fisheries, Bhimvaram working on deputation in the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru on 30.04.2020, Smt.K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer Bhimavaram working on OD in the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru requested to take over Accounts related files and cashbooks from Sri B.Deenadayal, Superintendent (Retd.). Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer, Bhimavaram who is working on OD in the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru has taken over charge of Accounts i.e., Bank Pass Books, Cheque Books, Cash Books & fixed Deposits.

In the inspection report of the Assistant Director (Admin.) and Senior Accountants O/o Commissioner of Fisheries, Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer, Bhimavaram (presently under suspension) worked in the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru on deputation. She is the incharge of the cash book, cheque books and fixed deposits and she was misappropriated an amount of Rs.2,80,25,000/- (Rupees two crores eighty lakhs and twenty five thousands only). She is the custodian of the cash books and cheque books and Fixed deposits. Being maintaining the cash books and cheque books and fixed deposits, she has to enter each and every transaction in the cash book and to submit the cash book and cheque book through proper channel to the Drawing and Disbursing Officer ie., Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru for signature of the Drawing and disbursing officer in the cash book as well as cheque books. As per the report furnished by the Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru at the time of inspection, an amount of Rs.2,80,25,000/- (Rupees two crores eighty lakhs twenty five thousands only) misappropriated at the time of Smt. K.Jyotsna who is the custodian of cash book, cheque books and Fixed deposits. It seems that Smt. K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer, Bhimavaram who worked in the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluruon O.D. has misappropriated the Government money of Rs.2,80,25,000/- with malafide intention.

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The Inspector of Police, SHO, Eluru III Town PS vide letter dt:14.10.2021 has informed that the case in crime no.722/2021 u/s 409, 420,468, 471 and 120 (B) IPC has been registered in connection with the misappropriation of Government funds to the tune of Rs.4.12 crore in the office of the Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru and investigated into by III town police station. On 12.10.2021 of 13.30 hours the accused 1. Kodamnchili Jyothsna, Fisheries Development Officer and 2. Sri Devaguptapu Venkata Ananta Sai Koundinya, Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, Polavaram attached to JD's office Eluru have been arrested and forwarded to the Honourable Court of Special Judicial magistrate of First Class (Mobile) West Godavari, Eluru. Both the accused have been charged under sections 409, 420, 468, 471 and 120 (B) IPC and they have been remanded to judicial custody for a period of 15 days by the Honourable Court. They have been forwarded to the District jail, Eluru.

In the letter dt:02.04.2022, the Inspector of Police, Eluru II Town PS has informed that in this case A2 Kodamanchili Jyoshna, FDO and A4 Devaputhapu Koundinya, Assistant of Fisheries were arrested and sent for remand on 12.10.2021. A2 released on bail on 27.10.2021 and A4 released on bail on 25.10.2021 by Hon'ble SJFCM Court, Eluru. In this case some more witnesses have to be examined in this case, case is under investigation.

Thus, Smt.K.Jyotsna, Fisheries Development Officer, Bhimavaram (U/s) working on OD in the O/o Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru by her above mentioned acts, exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty, conduct unbecoming of Government Servant in violation to the provisions under rule 3 (1) and (2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Thus, the charge.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

ANNEXURE - III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BY WHICH THE ARTICLE OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SMT. K.JYOTSNA, FISHEREIS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER BHIMAVARAM WORKED IN THE O/O JOINT DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES, ELURU ON O.D. ARE PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED

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1. No.794/A2/2021 dt:2.7.2021, the Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru
2. Inspection report of the team of Head Office AD (admin.) and Sr.Accountants of Accounts wing.
3. Details of Fixed Deposits in the name of DDF/JDF, Eluru (statement furnished by JDF, Eluru)
4. List of cancelled cheques available with JDF, Eluru office (statement furnished by JDF, Eluru)
5. List of Bank accounts maintained in the name of JDF/DDF, Eluru (statement furnished by JDF, Eluru)
6. Statement showing the particulars of funds misappropriation in the O/o JDF, Eluru (statement furnished by JDF, Eluru)
7. HDFC Bank, Eluru Br. A/c No.50100242612995 (IFSC code HDFC0001641) joint account in the name of District Collector & Joint Director of Fisheries, Eluru (Statement furnished by the JDF, Eluru)
8. Charge list of Smt. K.Jyotsna, FDO.

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9. JDF, Eluru W.G. M.No.290/A4/2020 dt:07.05.2020.

10. Inspector of Police, III town PS, Eluru letters dt:14.10.2021 and 02.04.2022.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

ANNEXURE-IV

LIST OF WITNESSES BY WHOM THE ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST Sri SMT. K.JYOTSNA, FISHEREIS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER BHIMAVARAM WORKED IN THE O/O JOINT DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES, ELURU ON O.D ARE PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED

-NIL-

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

SECTION OFFICER
A.H.D.D & F Department
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi,
AMARAVATI - 522 238.